| REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION(RCE)TRANSMITTAL (Submitted Only via EFS-Web)   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
|--|---------------------|----------------|---|-------------------------------|---|-------------|------|--|
| Application<br>Number  | 09/898,887          | Filing<br>Date | 2001-07-31                                      | Docket Number (if applicable) | MRD-61                                    | Art<br>Unit | 1653 |  |
| First Named<br>Inventor  | Rajagopalan         |                |   | Examiner<br>Name              | Lukton                                    |             |      |  |
| This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.  Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. The Instruction Sheet for this form is located at WWW.USPTO.GOV |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| SUBMISSION REQUIRED UNDER 37 CFR 1.114   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).        |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on  |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| Other Amendment of August 15, 2006   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| X Enclosed   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| ★ Amendment/Reply  |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| Other  |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| MISCELLANEOUS  |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
|  |                     |                | ntified application is r<br>d 3 months; Fee und |                               | CFR 1.103(c) for a period of m<br>quired) | onths _     |      |  |
| Other  |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| FEES   |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| The Dire   | ctor is hereby auth |                | s required by 37 CF<br>harge any underpayr      |                               | RCE is filed.<br>it any overpayments, to  |             |      |  |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  |                     |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| <b>X</b> Patent  | Practitioner Signa  | ature          |   |                               |   |             |      |  |
| Applica  | ant Signature       |                |   |                               |   |             |      |  |

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

| Signature of Registered U.S. Patent Practitioner |                         |                     |            |  |  |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| Signature  | /Beverly A. Lyman/      | Date (YYYY-MM-DD)   | 2006-10-24 |  |  |  |  |
| Name   | Beverly A. Lyman, Ph.D. | Registration Number | 41961      |  |  |  |  |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
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